

IMAGERY
ANALYSIS
DIVISION

POST-STRIKE ANALYSIS
LAM THAO SUPERPHOSPHATE PLANT
NORTH VIETNAM

CIA/PIR 65061

DATE Dec. 1965

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

WARNING

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The Lam Thao Superphosphate Plant (Phu Tho Chemical Fertilizer Plant) is located on the Rivere Rouge 5 nautical miles southeast of Phu Tho and 7.5 nautical miles west of Viet Tri at approximate geographic coordinates 21 20N - 105 17E. It is approximately 37 nautical miles northwest of Hanoi (Figure 1).

A previous report, CIA/IAD/IB-144/65, discusses the facilities present at this chemical fertilizer plant and the construction activity and level of operation during the period [REDACTED]. This report is limited to a discussion of bomb damage as well as any construction activity/changes at this plant from [REDACTED].

Figures 2 and 3 are, respectively, post- and pre-strike photo enlargements of the plant. The annotations on Figure 3 correspond to the following:

- (1) Piles of waste material from sulfide roasting process
- (2) Sulfide ore crushing and processing building (rail served)
- (3) Roaster section
- (4) Sulfuric acid plant
- (5) Acid tanks
- (6) Phosphate ore crushing and processing building (rail served)
- (7) Superphosphate production section and warehouse (mixing and den sections at south end)
- (8) Area of administration-type buildings
- (9) Boilerhouse
- (10) Possible laboratory and testing building
- (11) General purpose housing-administration buildings
- (12) Warehouse-production building (rail served) with bulk loading facilities
- (13) Unidentified processing area
- (14) Separately secured unidentified processing area with two buried tanks and a water tower

There are a number of bomb craters in and near the plant, but bomb damage was rather moderate. Buildings essential to production such as the sulfuric acid plant, ore crushing and processing buildings, boilerhouse, and superphosphate production building appear to be undamaged. A warehouse-production building was partially destroyed and the rail lines serving this building appear to be damaged. In addition, a small support building adjoining the plant area was destroyed. Presumably, the damage to the warehouse-production building and the rail lines will slow down, but not stop production.

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A great increase in the defensive facilities at this plant was the most significant change during the period [REDACTED] Five light anti-aircraft artillery (AAA) positions and four automatic weapons (AW) positions have been constructed since [REDACTED] In addition, a number of personnel/communications trenches have been dug in or near the plant.

A more detailed discussion of the bomb damage and construction activity/changes follows; the numbers below correspond to the numbers on Figure 2.

- (1) Four gun AW position, unoccupied
- (2) Two gun AW position, unoccupied
- (3) New section of warehouse-production building under construction
- (4) Bomb crater(s)
- (5) North end of the warehouse-production building destroyed; portions of the rail lines on either side of this building appear damaged
- (6) Portion of security fence destroyed
- (7) Personnel/communication trenches, constructed since [REDACTED]
- (8) Four gun light AAA position, occupied
- (9) Four gun light AAA position, unoccupied
- (10) Four gun light AAA position, unoccupied
- (11) Support building adjoining plant area destroyed by bomb
- (12) Three gun AW position, unoccupied
- (13) Four gun AW position, unoccupied
- (14) Four gun light AAA position, occupied
- (15) Four gun light AAA position, occupied
- (16) Two gun AW position, unoccupied
- (17) Four gun light AAA position, occupied
- (18) Slight change in configuration of materiel stored in open

NOTE: With the exception of Annotation 9, all of the AAA and AW positions have been constructed during the period [REDACTED]

A comparison of photography of [REDACTED] with that of [REDACTED] revealed no apparent changes in the plant area (Figure 4).

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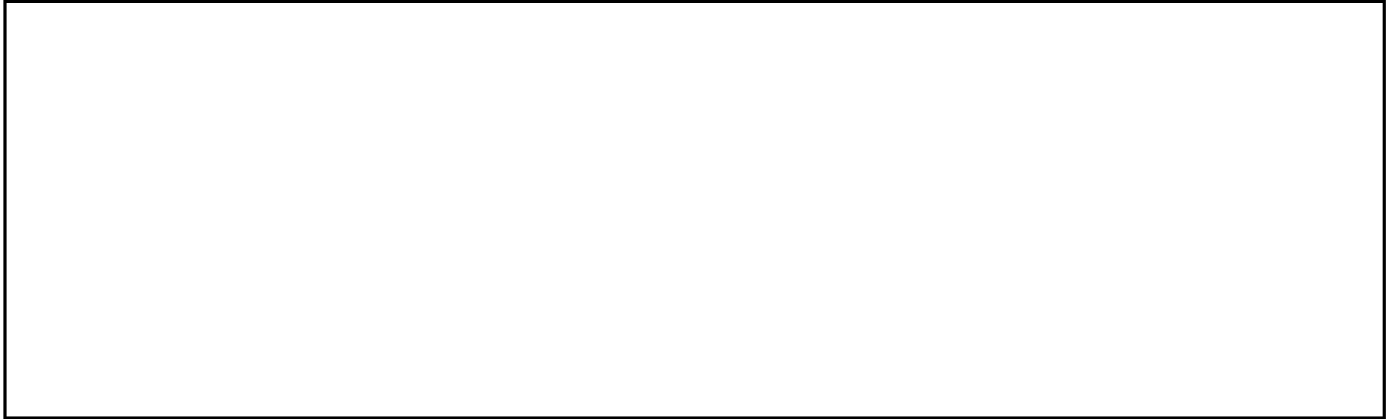
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REFERENCES


25X1



MAPS OR CHARTS

ACIC Operational Navigational Chart, J-11, 4th Edition, December 1964
(UNCLASSIFIED)

DOCUMENTS

CIA/IAD/IB Inter Office Memo No. 144/65, April 1965
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REQUIREMENT

CIA. C-RR5-83,153

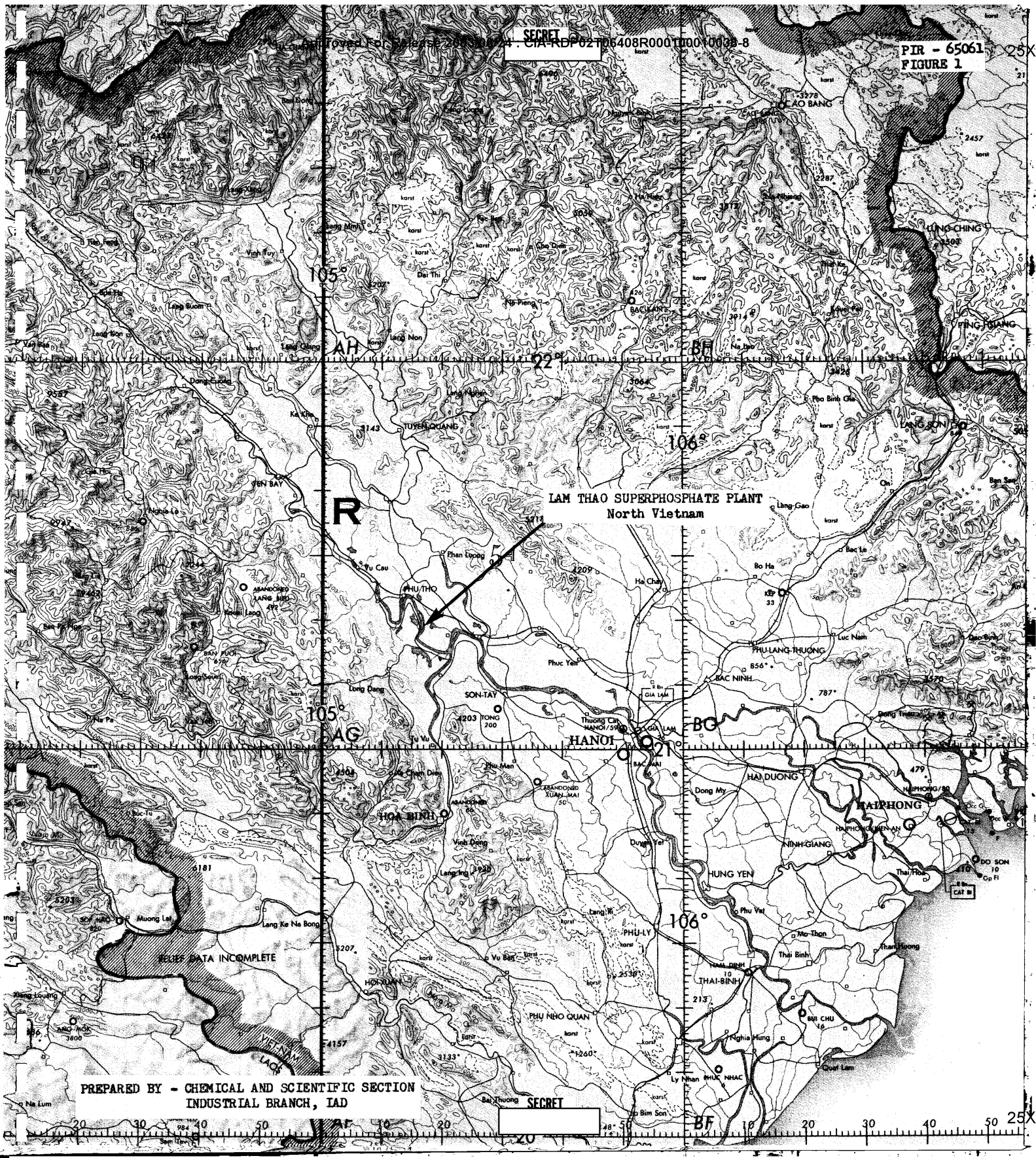
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FIGURE 2



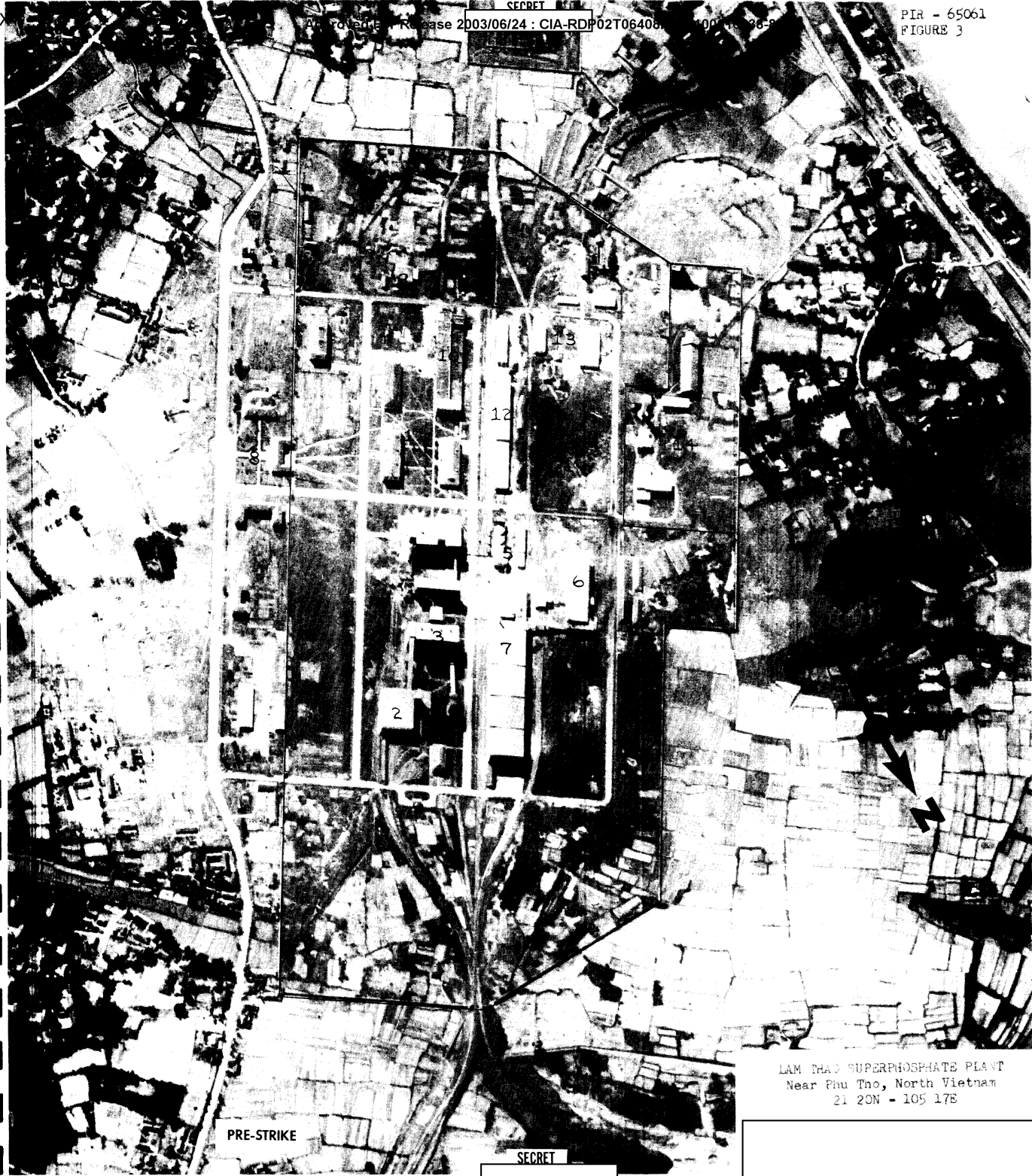
POST-STRIKE

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LAM THAO SUPERPHOSPHATE PLANT
Near Phu Tho, North Vietnam
21 20N - 105 17E

25X1

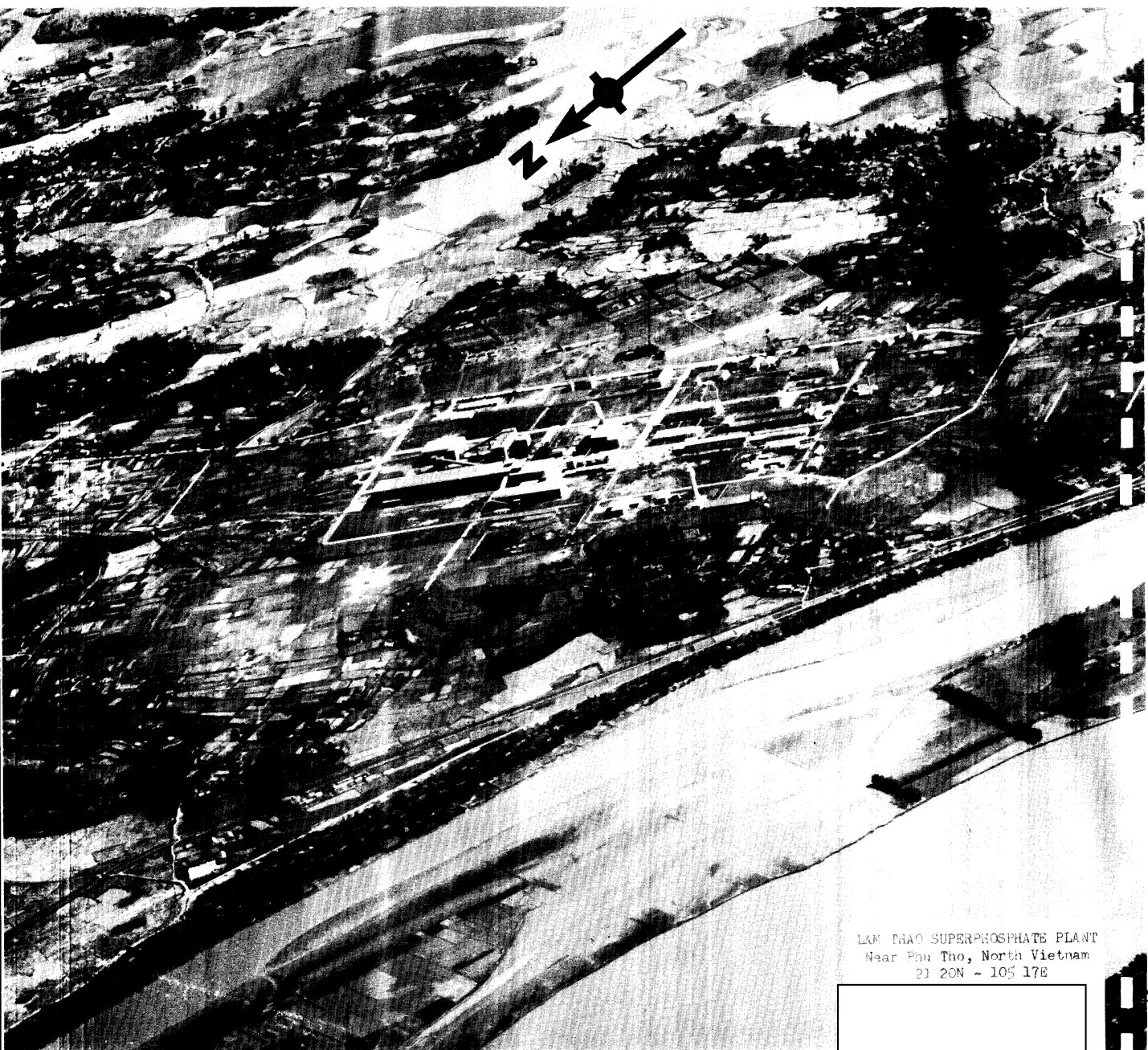
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LAM THAO SUPERPHOSPHATE PLANT
Near Phu Tho, North Vietnam
21 20N - 105 17E

25X1

25X1



LAM THAO SUPERPHOSPHATE PLANT
Near Phu Tho, North Vietnam
21 20N - 105 17E

5X1

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25X1

